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## From the Reference Desk

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**ATG:** Are more universities and libraries collecting culinary history?

**BH:** Many of the other subject specialists in the **Harvard** library system are now collecting cookbooks. Many have standing orders with foreign publishers and instead of discarding cookbooks are now adding them to their collections.

**ATG:** How many books are published in this field every year? Journals? Electronic databases available?

**BH:** No one really knows how many cookbooks are published each year because so many are published by small groups around the country as fundraisers (community cookbooks). I don't have any other quantitative information.

**ATG:** Finally, we all have favorite foods, our madeleines: what are yours?

**BH:** My favorites: Anything with peanuts. Wonderful crusty Italian breads, with olive-oil. I have experienced enough different oils so that I can taste the differences between those coming from Tuscany and those from Provence. I love the green grassy ones as well as the more mellow buttery ones and try to match them up to appropriate dishes. 

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## From the Reference Desk

Column Editor: **Tom Gilson** (Head, Reference Services, College of Charleston) <[gilsont@cofc.edu](mailto:gilsont@cofc.edu)>

At first glance, some reference titles seem narrowly focused. Arguably, **Routledge's, The Papacy: An Encyclopedia** (2002, 0415922283, \$425) might be viewed as such a work. But on closer examination it is obvious that the impact of the Roman Catholic Church on Western history gives a study of the Papacy far reaching relevance. In short, this encyclopedia has broader application.

This three-volume work is an updated English language version of the *Dictionnaire historique de la papauté* edited by **Philippe Levillain** and first published by **Librairie Athene Fayard**. The majority of this English language set is a direct translation of the initial 1994 French edition, but the content has been updated to include events since then. Naturally, the *Encyclopedia* includes biographical sketches of the popes but in addition, there are involved discussions of rituals, doctrines, historical events, religious orders, canon law and the politics, as well as the inner workings, of the Vatican.

The scholarship that went into this set is unquestioned. Editor **Philippe Levillain** gathered well over 200 scholars, mostly European, to contribute approximately 780 articles to the original edition. They, along with a team of translators and reviewers guided by **John W. O'Malley, S.J.** have created a

work that sets the standard for a reference on this topic. The articles are clear, read well and are full of relevant information. However, there is one caveat. While the bibliographies have been supplemented with English language sources, the majority of citations are in French and that will limit their usefulness for many undergraduates.

Nonetheless, *The Papacy: An Encyclopedia* is the most comprehensive and scholarly reference work treating this subject. There are useful single volume works like **J. N. D. Kelly's Oxford dictionary of Popes** (1989, 0192820850, \$14.95) and **Richard P. McBrien's Lives of the Popes** (1997, 0060653035, \$29.50). But those titles may now be more appropriate for circulating collections. For those libraries that can afford it, *The Papacy: An Encyclopedia* will become the reference source of choice, and merits serious consideration from most academic libraries, as well as larger public libraries. For many libraries that focus on religious studies, this encyclopedia may be seen as essential.

**ABC-CLIO** has added to their *American Family* series of reference books with *Boyhood in America: an Encyclopedia*. (2001,

1576072150, \$185). Defining boyhood "from birth through the teenage years until about the age of twenty," this 2-volume set treats over 150 diverse topics in articles ranging from 2-4 pages in length. Many of the articles deal with specific activities and hobbies while others cover evolving roles and family relationships, as well as individual and group behavior. There are also entries on the boyhoods of Americans representative of their time and place in society. Resulting articles include those on sports like baseball and ice hockey as well as activities as diverse as drag racing and books and reading. In addition, there are articles on issues and behaviors as diverse as competition, divorce, emotions, gangs, poverty, suicide and boyhood sexuality. Readers will find that one of the main benefits of this set is the historical perspective given by these articles. There is an obvious attempt to show the evolution of the boyhood experience in America from colonial times to the present. But, some of the articles stretch to find relevance. For example, the observations expressed in the articles on schoolbooks, amusement parks, and Sunday schools, while interesting, struggle to find the direct relationship to boyhood that many of the other articles have. Nonetheless, this is a

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useful work that provides an overview of a somewhat neglected subject and offers bibliographic references to more specific aspects of each topic. In fact for a two-volume set, the size of the cumulative bibliography is substantial. While having a scholarly tilt, the articles are written in an informative style appropriate for a wide range of readers. *Boyhood in America: an Encyclopedia* is one of those sets that could equally be at home in circulating collections, particularly in academic and larger public libraries.

This set may be unique with its focuses on the history of American boyhood; however, libraries with interest in this topic, may also want to consider other reference sets like **Salem Press's** five-volume *Encyclopedia of Family Life* (1998, 0893569402, \$365) and *The Gale Encyclopedia of Childhood and Adolescence*. (1997, 0810398842, \$140).

Once there was a dearth of thorough, multi-volume medical encyclopedias, no longer. **The Gale Group** saw the vacuum and moved to fill it. First, there was the well-received *Gale Encyclopedia of Medicine*, that has recently been published in a second edition (2001, 0787654892, \$525). Then there was the *Gale Encyclopedia of Alternative Medicine* (2001, 0787649996, \$375). Now there are a series of others including the *Gale Encyclopedia of Nursing and Allied Health* (2002, 0787649384, \$850) and the *Gale Encyclopedia of Genetic Disorders* (2001, 0787656127, \$285).

The most extensive of these newer sets is the *Gale Encyclopedia of Nursing and Allied Health*. Containing 850 articles in 5 volumes, this reference work is directed specifically at nursing and allied health students. Broadly speaking, the contents cover diseases and disorders, tests and procedures, equipment and tools, human biology and body systems, current health issues and various nursing and allied health professions. Each entry is divided into sections relevant to the topic. For example, an article on a disease would

contain a section with a definition, a description, causes and symptoms, diagnosis, treatment, etc. while articles on equipment and tools would contain definitions and descriptions, but also discuss operation, maintenance, training and the health care team's role in their use. The organization of the entries is an added strength. The structure insures that the information relevant for each topic is assembled in one accessible place. Related articles are linked by the use of bold type within the text of each article. As an added feature many entries also list further resources and contact information about professional organizations, including web site addresses. As you would expect these five volumes contain a number of medical terms as well as technical jargon. However, throughout the set, sidebars are used to highlight and define key terms. (Even so, lay readers may want a medical dictionary close by.)

The overall impression is of a very useful tool. Students will find its explanations helpful for quick reference as well as a starting point for more in-depth research. Professionals will use it as refresher for definitions and descriptions as well as source where the various elements related to a topic of interest are gathered in one convenient entry. The only drawback is the price. At \$850 this is an expensive five volumes. However, there is nothing else comparable on the market. This is a specialized set and medical and technical college libraries supporting nursing and allied health curriculums may have to "bite the bullet." Libraries with broader needs would be better served by the more general *Gale Encyclopedia of Medicine* or **Salem Press's** *Magill's Medical Guide* (2002, 1587650037, \$325).

Interestingly, while the *Gale Encyclopedia of Genetic Disorders* may be more focused that the *Gale Encyclopedia of Nursing and Allied Health*, it may appeal to a broader audience. Following a similar layout and structure as the other Gale medical sets, this work contains almost 400 articles, most of which deal with specific genetically inherited diseases and disorders. Each entry starts with a definition and description followed by a genetic profile, demographics, symptoms, diagnosis, treatment and prognosis. There is also a list of selected resources as well as contact information for related organizations.

Coverage includes more familiar conditions like Down's syndrome, panic disorder, hemophilia, muscular dystrophy and sickle cell anemia as well as the less well known like retinoblastoma, Fabry disease, Holt-Oram syndrome, and acid maltase deficiency. Each article is loaded with facts and written in a straightforward style.

Both volumes of the set are illustrated throughout with a total of over 200 color photos and drawings. There are sidebars

listing key terms for each entry as well as a cumulative glossary at the end of volume two. Other helpful features include a general index and a chromosome map that "indicates the relative positions of the genes that code for certain characteristics."

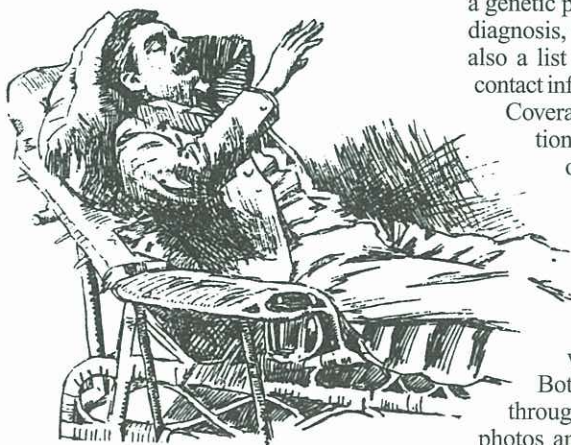
*The Gale Encyclopedia of Genetic Disorders* provides the reader with thorough overviews of the conditions covered and is thoughtfully designed for quick access to the most pertinent information. It will be a valued resource for both students researching these conditions as well as those people whose lives have been directly affected by them.

Academic and public libraries where interest in medical topics is high, as well as medical libraries in need of a good ready reference source, should welcome it on their shelves.

Another **Routledge** reference worthy of discussion is the *Encyclopedia of Contemporary Japanese Culture*. (2002, 0415143446, \$140). This one volume encyclopedia treats a diverse range of topics that reflect developments in Japanese culture since 1945. Coverage ranges from the growth of baseball to the emergence of feminism, from concerns about the environment to the influence of Japanese cinema and from the impact of political scandals to the growth of tourism and leisure. However, this is a book that offers more than contemporary trends. The *Encyclopedia* also discusses the role of the traditional like the centuries-old cultivation of the bonzai, the music of the Imperial Court, called gagaku, and omiai, the practice of arranged marriages. While there are some longer, overview articles, most of the entries are less than a page long, but they are fact-filled and informative. A number of articles have brief but selected bibliographies. Related articles are linked by "see also" references. While the arrangement is alphabetical, there is a useful thematic entry list as well as a complete subject index. With the *Encyclopedia of Contemporary Japanese Culture*, editor **Susan Buckley** and her contributors provide a valuable reference work for both the specialist and the general reader. Containing over 700 articles, the coverage is thorough and taken as a whole, offers a well-rounded view of contemporary Japanese culture. It would provide a nice companion to another impressive work, *Japan: An Illustrated Encyclopedia* (1993, 4069310983, \$116, used from **Amazon.com**). Academic libraries supporting Japanese or Asian studies, as well as large public libraries where there is interest will want both on their shelves.

Speaking of handy one-volume references, **Greenwood Publishing** has released a title that should find an interested audience. *The Historical Dictionary of the Great De-*

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**pression 1929-1940** (2001, 0313306184, \$90) by **James S. Olson** provides straightforward explanations of more than the economic fallout from the stock market crash of 1929. In over 500 brief essays he discusses the political, social and cultural impacts as well as many of the personalities who grabbed the national spotlight. In short, coverage is rich and varied. Topics range from New Deal programs like the WPA and the CCC to popular movies like *Public Enemy* and *Frankenstein*. There are also articles that discuss individual countries ranging from Ethiopia to the Soviet Union as well as essays on people as diverse as sport legend **Jesse Owens**, renowned lawyer and activist **Clarence Darrow**, film star **Claudette Colbert** and secretary of labor **Frances Perkins**. In addition, there are entries that describe events like the Berlin Olympics and the London Economic Conference of 1933 and landmark legislation like the Banking Act, the National Labor Relations Act and the Social Security Act. Added features include a chronology and a general bibliography. This is one of those books that could benefit from a thematic list of entries. For example, the only way to discover which articles discuss popular radio programs is to look entry by entry. The general index is little help in this regard. A look under radio reveals only a listing for the *Radio Guild*, a specific program.

The *Historical Dictionary of the Great Depression 1929-1940* can be relied on for both quick facts and as a source that provides an overview of the topic. Depending on need, this title could find its way on to either reference or circulating shelves.

Another recent one-volume work deserving serious attention is a second edition of a book published by **Scarecrow**. The *Historical Dictionary of Terrorism* (2002, 0810841010, \$90) is a timely work illuminating a topic that has captured headlines

#### Publisher Profile from page 48

**JL:** Finally, you not only publish *HDCN* on-line; you are also a professor and teach medicine at the University of Illinois School of Medicine, Chicago; and you are a practicing physician. How do you manage to coordinate all these activities?

**Dr. Daugirdas:** Working very hard including nights and weekends! Since I am also a consumer of the information that *HDCN* generates, however, it does save me some time. For example, I edit a *Handbook of Dialysis*. With the material we put on-line on *HDCN*, it will be much easier for me to update the book when it comes time for the next edition. It is also somewhat a labor of love. 🍷

worldwide. Beginning with an introductory essay that points to the international dimensions of the phenomenon, authors **Sean K Anderson** and **Stephen Sloan** provide clear, precise descriptions of concepts, theories, specific terrorist groups as well as useful biographical sketches. From the Aryan Resistance Army in the United States to Khmer Rouge of Cambodia, from the IRA in Ireland to the Moro Liberation Front in the Philippines and from Hezbollah to the Tonton Macoutes of Papa Doc Duvalier's Haiti, this book discusses terrorist groups globally. It also defines phenomena like Islamic Fundamentalism, concepts like revolution and Jihad, methods like arson and kidnapping, as well as terms like narco-terrorism, homeland de-

fense and the Jewish underground. The coverage offered in this book is comprehensive while the approach scholarly and the writing is clear. Features like a useful chronology and a well designed, selected bibliography add to the *Dictionary's* value. My only problem is with the lack of access points. There are no indexes and although this is a *Adictionary*, the content is so rich and in many cases unfamiliar, that it demands more location tools. Both a thematic list as well as a general index would enhance this work and raise it to the level of an exceptional one-volume reference. Still, the *Historical Dictionary of Terrorism* is a title that a number of libraries, both public and academic, will want as part of the collection. 🍷

## Book Reviews — Monographic Musings

Column Editor: **Debbie Vaughn**  
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**Editor's Note:** This issue's column showcases books that deal with all sorts of issues in all types of libraries. The Haworth Press is an Old Faithful of library and information science resources; the information that this publishing house provides to our profession allows us to stay abreast of issues such as online academic research and off-campus library

services. Scholarly communication is imperative in all things academic, especially in fields in which technology plays a star role. Technology is information's bedfellow, and as librarians we are in the business of both technology and information. Thank goodness the books reviewed here can help us deal with information technology's challenges. — DV

**Academic Research on the Internet: Options for Scholars and Libraries.**  
**Helen Laurence and William Miller**, Eds. New York: Haworth Information Press, 2001. 0789011778. \$49.95. 386 pages.

Reviewed by **Debbie Vaughn** (College of Charleston)

Even the most gifted wordsmith would not be able to deny that *Academic Research on the Internet: Options for Scholars and Libraries*, edited by **Helen Laurence** and **William Miller**, is a webliography. In its majority, this book is little more than a list of links to Web sites on various topics. Print Internet guides are often obsolete by the time of publication, so my hesitancy to review this title was high. A brief initial investigation curbed my fears, though, and after thoroughly delving into its content, I find *Academic Research on the Internet* to contain a cornucopia of valuable information, even over a year after its publication date.

Co-published simultaneously as *Journal of Libraries Administration*, volume 30, *Academic Research on the Internet* "seeks to assess the real value of the Internet for scholarly research." **Laurence** and **Miller** divide their volume into subject-based sections; anthropology, art, business, education, engineering, history, legal information, literature,

medical resources, natural science, philosophy, and political science all get coverage. If this volume were simply an annotated list of links to free-Web information, it would not be worth purchasing. The value of this book, however, is what fills in the cracks. **Laurence** and **Miller** asked their contributing authors (who are, not surprisingly, subject specialists, and almost all of whom possess either a doctorate or a second master's degree) not only to supply links to canon-like sites, but also to "assess the extent to which Internet sources can currently support scholarly research." The result: subject-based scholarly assessment of the quality of information on the Web.

Each section begins with a summary and is followed by information broken down into various sub-categories. For example, **Michael Seadle's** chapter, "Sound, Image, Action: Remaking History on the Internet," is divided according to resource type. Discussion groups, multimedia collections, pho-

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